WASHINGTON-Congressman Spencer Bachus today strongly encouraged schools to take advantage of nearly \$100 million made available for Teaching American History grants by the U.S. Department of Education. "The purpose of these grants is to improve the teaching of American history in our schools", Congressman Bachus said. "Without an understanding of American history, one cannot fully appreciate the blessings of freedom we enjoy today."

The Teaching American History grant program supports three-year projects to improve teacher's knowledge, understanding and appreciation of American history. This is done through activities that strive to develop further expertise in American history, teaching strategies and other essential elements of teaching to higher standards.

In the coming days a grant application notice will be published in the Federal Register. The application deadline is July 7, 2003.